

MEDIA RELEASE

**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
March 6, 2007**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Western District of Kentucky**

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**CONVICTED HENDERSON DRUG DEALER PLEADS GUILTY TO
METHAMPHETAMINE DISTRIBUTION AND POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today that **JAMES D. MORGAN, JR.**, age 25, of 917 Center Street, Henderson, Kentucky in Henderson County, **pled guilty** to distributing methamphetamine and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

The maximum potential penalties, are no more than 50 years, a \$2,250,000 fine, and at least 3 years supervised release.

On January 9, 2006, **Morgan** sold 27.91 grams of methamphetamine and a Beretta pistol to an undercover officer for \$1,300. On January 18, 2006, **Morgan** sold 27.499 grams of methamphetamine to the same undercover officer for \$1,300. The drugs involved had a street value of over \$5,500.

Morgan has previously been convicted on May 24, 2004, Henderson Circuit Court, Henderson County, Kentucky, Case No. 03-CR-370, of Receiving Stolen Property over \$300 committed on or about October 7, 2003.

Co-defendant **Charles Joiner** pled guilty to related charges on December 19, 2006 in the Southern District of Indiana.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Madison Sewell and was

investigated by the Kentucky State Police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

The plea was entered before Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, Owensboro, Kentucky.

Morgan is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge McKinley on June 4 at 9:00 a.m., in Owensboro, Kentucky.

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